

Media, PA— Congressman Joe Sestak (D-PA) spoke to 175 Conestoga High School seniors taking the AP Government course about the importance of public service. — “Young people today are the leaders of tomorrow. Having served with our nation’s youth for 31 years in the United States Navy, I have seen first hand their promise and dedication to America’s future, and am honored to share my experiences and encourage them to get involved in public service,” said Congressman Sestak, “The most crucial aspect of a vibrant democracy is active participation from its citizens.”

The morning included remarks by Congressman Sestak on one’s civic duty and why we need government. During his speech, he spoke about his career in the military and how that experience has impacted his political life. The Congressman then took questions from students and participated in an interview with the student television crew and with writers from the high school newspaper, The Spoke.

“I was deeply impressed by the enthusiasm and knowledge of the students I spoke with this morning. The students asked thoughtful questions on a wide range of issues from energy and the environment, to our national deficit, the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, and the War in Iraq,” said Joe.

Conestoga Senior High School is located in Berwyn, a community in Tredyffrin Township, Chester County. The school serves 1,900 students in the Tredyffrin/Easttown School District.

Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. Congress.